

## **NATHAN** Finds New Life in Jerusalem

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## NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Storytellers teach as they tell. One of the most effective tools for teaching is the delightful art of storytelling.

As the story of Nathan the Jewish boy progresses, it is my prayer that it may not simply entertain, but *instruct* and *inspire*.

May it *instruct* Gentile boys and girls, giving them a better understanding and appreciation of orthodox Judaism.

May it inspire Christian boys and girls to share their experience of salvation with their Jewish friends.

I have tried to present Nathan as an intelligent, thoughtful boy, perhaps wise beyond his years, yet typical of many Jewish boys the world over. You will be able to make any adjustments deemed necessary for your particular group.

My prayer is that God will control the story. There is much more we should like to include but it is impossible in a volume limited to this size.

Go, little story, and do His bidding.

Rose-Mae Carvin

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

## GLOSSARY

- **Talmud:** The gathering of rabbinic commentaries on the Torah with other comments and discussions by later rabbis
- Tenach: The Old Testament, so named from the first letters of the three divisions: Torah (law), Novim (Prophets) and Chethubim (writings)
- Torah: The Law or the five books of Moses (God-given) (from The Shofar)
- Bar Mitzvah: Son of Commandment; a religious ceremony by which a male Jew at the age of 13 becomes a formal member of the community

Gov (Govim): Gentile

- Kaddish: The son or grandson who recites the prayer after the death of his parent
- **Kosher:** Ritually fit to use food prepared according to dietary laws

Nathan stood alone, away from the

Matzo (matzos): Unleavened bread eaten during Passover

- Mezuzah: Portions of the Pentateuch, encased in a small box and attached to the doorpost of a Jewish home
- Phylacteries: Leather cases containing portions of the Torah. Bound by long black straps on forehead and left arm of males over 13. If man is left-handed they are bound on right arm (whichever arm does less work). Worn for blessings and prayer in morning

Seder: The festive meal on the first two evenings of Passover Shabbes: Sabbath

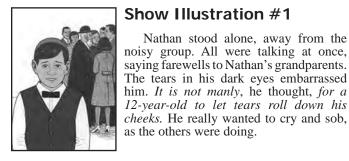
Shalom: Peace

**Talis:** Prayer shawl worn by male Jews during prayers

Talmid Khokhem: Wise student, scholar

Yarmelkeh: Skullcap worn by religious Jews in order to have the head covered at all times

(From: *Life Is With People* by Zborowski and Herzog.)



## **Chapter 1**

It had been wonderful to have a real grandfather and a real grandmother living in his home. The year of their visit had passed much too quickly. Now they were returning to their home in Israel. Would he ever see them again? He really loved them. If only they could stay in the United States all the time!

In the excitement Nathan seemed to have been forgotten, until his grandfather observed him and motioned for him to join the group. Nathan refused by turning away.

He heard his grandfather say, "You all should stay here. I want to talk to the boy alone. No one should follow me."